

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02

H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

DODE-00 CU-02 IO-10 ACDA-05 EUR-12 /076 W

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R 161002Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1124

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15481

DEPT PASS IMMEDIATELY IBS/NCA

FOLL SENT ACTION SAIGON FM DANANG 13 DEC 74:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0719

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION IN THUA THIEN

REF: DANANG 0716

1. DEC 12 DISCUSSED LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION WITH THUA THIEN PROVINCE CHIEF, COLONEL NGUYEN HUU DUE.

2. DUE SAID THAT HE WAS NOT PRESENTLY CONCERNED WITH THE PEOPLES ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT IN THUA THIEN. THE ARCH BISHOP OF HUE AND THE VICAR GENERAL HAVE BOTH PROMISED HIM THEIR COOPERATION TO ENSURE THAT PACM ACTIVITY IN HUE DOES NOT GET OUT OF HAND.

3. DUE IS ALSO UNCONCERNED REGARDING LOCAL NATIONAL RECONCILIATION FRONT ACTIVITY. HE BELIEVES THAT THE BUDDHISTS IN THUA THIEN ARE FOCUSED ON UPCOMING VIEN HOA DAO ELECTIONS AND THE NRF WILL REMAIN QUIESCENT FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

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HIS ANALYSIS OF THICH THIEN MINH'S RECENT VISIT TO HUE PARALLELS

ANALYSIS REPORTED PARA ONE OF REFTTEL.

4. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, DUE IS MOST CONCERNED AT THE PRESENT TIME WITH ELECTIONS OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES IN HUE UNIVERSITY. ACCORDING TO THE PROVINCE CHIEF, THERE ARE TWO GROUPS OF STUDENTS COMPETING IN THESE ELECTIONS. ONE GROUP IS "ALL RIGHT" AND ONE MIGHT CAUSE TROUBLE FOR THE GVN. DUE SAID THAT THREE FACULTIES HAVE CHOSEN THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ALREADY. EDUCATION HAS VOTED FOR THE GROUP DUE FAVORS AND FACULTIES OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE FOR THE OTHER GROUP. DUE BELIEVES THAT THE GROUP HE FAVORS WILL PROBABLY WIN IN THE FACULTIES OF MEDICINE AND LAW.

5. DUE ALSO SAID THAT RECENTLY A VC CADRE HAD BEEN KILLED IN THUA THIEN AND SOME FILM AND DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN CAPTURED. THE DOCUMENTS MENTIONED FOUR HUE UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS. WHEN THESE PROFESSORS LEARNED OF THIS THEY FLED HUE TO HIDE IN QUANG NAM. BEFORE THEY LEFT HUE THEY CONTACTED FRIENDS AND RELATIVES AND ASKED THEM TO SPREAD THE RUMOR THAT THE POLICE HAD ARRESTED THEM.

6. APPARENTLY THE WIFE OF ONE OF THE PROFESSORS WROTE A LETTER TO A NUMBER OF NOTABLES IN HUE AFTER HER HUSBAND LEFT THE CITY IMPLYING THAT TSHE BELIEVED THE POLICE HAD CUSTODY OF HER HUSBAND. THE PROVINCE CHIEF SAID THAT HE THEN WENT ON TELEVISION AND RADIO TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO THE PEOPLE OF HUE. HE BELIEVES THAT HE HAS THE PROBLEM UNDER CONTROL AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT.

7. ON NOV 28 COL. NGUYEN HUU DUE, MAYOR/PROVINCE CHIEF OF HUE/THUA THIEN, TOLD A CONSULATE GENERAL POLITICAL OFFICER THAT HE HAD ASKED BUU TON, CHAIRMAN OF THE HUE CITY COUNCIL, TO TELL SONG-WRITER TRINH CONG SON TO WITHDRAW FROM THE HUE/THUA THIEN BRANCH OF THE PEOPLE'S ANTI-STARVATION FRONT. IF NOT, COL. DUE WOULD SEAYKHAT SON WAS ARRESTED FOR DESERTION. DUE EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH A MOVE WOULD BE DISTASTEFUL SINCE SON WAS A MAN OF GREAT TALENT, BUT HIS INFLUENCE WITH THE YOUNG WAS CONSIDERABLE AND IF HE REMAINED ACTIVE IN THE FRONT, HE WOULD DRAW MANY STUDENTS IN AFTER HIM. DUE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT PRUDENTLY PERMIT SON TO LEND HIS SUPPORT TO A MOVMENT WITH REAL POTENTIAL FOR PUBLIC DISTURBANCE AND WHICH WAS, IN DUE'S OPINION, FOLLOWING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMUNIST LINE.

8. OSA POLICE SOURCES CONFIRM THAT SON IS A DESERTER. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE JOINED THE ARMY AFTER HIS GRADUATION FROM THE SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGY IN QUI NHON IN 1964. HE DESERTED ON OCTOBER 19, 1967. HE HELD THE RANK OF SERGEANT.
FRANCIS
UNQUOTE MARTIN

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NNN

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